

Chavez Backs McGovern
By JAMES M. NAUGHTON

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SALEM, Ore., May 19 — Cesar Chavez, the director of the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee and a leader among California's Mexican-Americans, endorsed Senator George McGovern's Presidential candidacy today. The two men will appear together tomorrow in Phoenix.

The endorsement was made known today as Mr. McGovern, the only major candidate actively campaigning in Oregon's Democratic Presidential primary on Tuesday, traveled across the state with his eye constantly on neighboring California.

The Senator from South Dakota readily accepted a debate challenge made yesterday in California by his principal rival, Senator Hubert H. Hum-

phrey of Minnesota. He agreed to joint appearances on network television programs on the two Sundays before California's primary on June 6 and to debate Mr. Humphrey "any place, any time" that he chooses.

The candidates will meet in "debate format" on one-hour broadcasts of A.B.C.'s "Issues and Answers" and C.B.S.'s "Face the Nation." One will be May 28 and the second, June 4, but the order has not been set.

In addition, Senator McGovern challenged Mr. Humphrey and his supporters to conduct the California campaign with restraint and to focus on the issues of the war and the economy. He said that Eugene Wyman, Mr. Humphrey's California finance director, had "distorted" Mr. McGovern's positions on such issues as abortion reform and drug control.

The political climate following the assassination attempt to Gov. George C. Wallace of Alabama makes it essential for candidates to "help set the tone" for reasoned public discourse, Mr. McGovern said last night in Portland, where he made his first major address since the Governor was shot on Monday.

Mr. McGovern said other candidates ought to join him in pledging to "bend every effort to prevent either distortions, inflammatory statements of any kind or personal attack by anyone associated with my campaign."

Today, however, he said that Mr. Wyman appeared to be the sort of wealthy individual "climbing through the kind of tax loopholes that I expect to reduce as President."

Campaign aides said that Mr. McGovern would go to Phoenix tomorrow to "meet with" Mr. Chavez, who is fasting there in protest against enactment of an Arizona law restricting the organization of farm workers.